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Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Note verbale dated 26 March 2018 from the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations (Vienna) addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations (Vienna), with reference to its notes verbales of 4 May 2017 (A/AC.105/1150) and 8 December 2017 (A/AC.105/1150/Add.1), has the honour to provide the following notification with respect to the re-entry into the atmosphere of the space laboratory Tiangong-1.

As at 23 March 2018, Tiangong-1 was at an altitude of approximately 222.4 km in an orbit with a perigee of 215.1 km, an apogee of 229.6 km and at 42.64 degrees inclination. According to the latest prediction, the date of re-entry will be 2 April 2018, with a ±3-day window. The re-entry area will be located between 43 degrees North latitude and 43 degrees South latitude. On the basis of further calculation and review, most structural parts of Tiangong-1 will burn up on re-entry. The probability of damage to aviation activities and human life and facilities on Earth is extremely low. China will continue to closely monitor the status of Tiangong-1 and provide information on its orbit and time of re-entry through the official website of the China Manned Space Engineering Programme (www.cmse.gov.cn).

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